1. In a system that is capable of displaying a video stream that is received from a video source, a method for simultaneously displaying a user interface with the video stream in a single display window, the method comprising:

generating screen data by mixing a user interface and a video stream;

displaying the screen data in the display window, wherein a view of the video in the display window is dependent on a level of transparency of the user interface;

receiving input from a user, wherein the input controls the level of transparency of the user interface; and

adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface on the display device according to the input received from the user.

2. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein generating screen data by mixing a user interface and a video stream further comprises mixing the user interface with the video stream according to a current level of transparency.

3. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein receiving input from a user further comprises receiving input from an input device controlled by the user.

4. A method as defined in claim 3, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises adjusting a level of transparency of the video stream, wherein the level of transparency of the video stream increases if the level of transparency of the user interface decreases and wherein the level of transparency of the video stream decreases if the level of transparency of the user interface increases.

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5. A method as defined in claim 3, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises making the user interface either more transparent or less transparent.

6. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the user interface comprises one or more items that each have a level of transparency, the method further comprising adjusting a level of transparency for a selected item without adjusting levels of transparency for non-selected items.

7. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises displaying a transparency control on the display device, wherein the transparency control is used to select a level of transparency that is applied to the user interface.

8. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein generating screen data further comprises retrieving content from a network, wherein the content is included in the user interface.

9. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein generating screen data further comprises at least one of:

receiving the video stream from a cable system;

receiving the video stream from a satellite system;

receiving the video stream from a network; and

retrieving the video stream from a storage of the set top box.

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10. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the user interface includes interactive elements related to the video stream.

11. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein displaying the screen data on the display device further comprises:

displaying the video stream using an entire screen of the display device; and

displaying the user interface using the entire screen of the display device.

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12. In a system that is capable of displaying video content that is received from a video source or retrieved from a storage of a set top box, a method for displaying a user interface with the video content without having to resize the video content, the method comprising:

generating screen data by mixing a user interface with the video content according to a level of transparency that is associated with the user interface and a level of transparency that is associated with the video content;

displaying the screen data in a window of a display device, wherein a view of the video content is dependent on the level of transparency of the user interface and on the level of transparency of the video content; and

adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface and the level of transparency of the video content according to input received from an input device that is operated by a user, wherein the view of the video content changes as the level of transparency of the user interface and the level of transparency of the video content are adjusted.

13. A method as defined in claim 12, wherein the user interface includes one or more items, the method further comprising:

selecting an item that is included in the user interface; and

adjusting a level of transparency for the selected item without adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface.

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14. A method as defined in claim 13, wherein adjusting a level of transparency for the selected item further comprises adjusting the level of transparency for the item such that the item is either more transparent or less transparent.

15. A method as defined in claim 13, wherein the selected item is an interactive item that is associated with the video.

16. A method as defined in claim 12, wherein adjusting the level of transparency further comprises adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface such that the user interface is either more transparent or less transparent.

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17. In a system including a set top box capable of displaying video content on a display device, a method for displaying a user interface that has one or more selectable items and the video content in a single window, the method comprising:

displaying the user interface and the video content in the window, wherein the video content is viewable according to a global level of transparency of the user interface;

selecting an item included in the user interface, wherein the selected item has a level of transparency that is independent of the global level of transparency; and

adjusting the level of transparency of the item according to input received from a user, wherein the global level of transparency does not change.

18. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein selecting an item included in the user interface further comprises:

selecting multiple items in the user interface; and

simultaneously adjusting the levels of transparency for each of the selected items without affecting the global level of transparency.

19. A method as defined in claim 17, further comprising adjusting the global level of transparency of the user interface according to input received from a user.

20. A method as defined in claim 19, wherein displaying the user interface and the video content in the window further comprises generating screen data by mixing the user interface with the video content.

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21. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the window occupies all of an available display area of the display device.

22. A computer program product having a computer readable medium containing computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 17.

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23. In a system that is capable of displaying a video stream that is received from a video source or retrieved from a storage of a set top box, a computer program product for implementing a method for simultaneously displaying a user interface with the video stream in a single display window, the method comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method, the method comprising:

generating screen data by mixing a user interface and a video stream;

displaying the screen data in the display window, wherein a view of the video in the display window is dependent on a level of transparency of the user interface;

receiving input from a user, wherein the input controls the level of transparency of the user interface; and

adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface on the display device according to the input received from the user.

24. A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein generating screen data by mixing a user interface and a video stream further comprises mixing the user interface with the video stream according to a current level of transparency.

25. A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein receiving input from a user further comprises receiving input from an input device controlled by the user.

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26. A computer program product as defined in claim 25, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises adjusting a level of transparency of the video stream, wherein the level of transparency of the video stream increases if the level of transparency of the user interface decreases and wherein the level of transparency of the video stream decreases if the level of transparency of the user interface increases.

27. A computer program product as defined in claim 25, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises making the user interface either more or less transparent.

28. A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein the user interface comprises one or more items that each have a level of transparency, the method further comprising adjusting a level of transparency for a selected item without adjusting levels of transparency for non-selected items.

29. A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises displaying a transparency control on the display device, wherein the transparency control is used to select a level of transparency that is applied to the user interface.

30. A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein generating screen data further comprises retrieving content from a network, wherein the content is included in the user interface.

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31. A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein generating screen data further comprises at least one of:

receiving the video stream from a cable system;

receiving the video stream from a satellite system;

receiving the video stream from a network; and

retrieving the video stream from a storage of the set top box.

32. A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein the user interface includes interactive elements related to the video stream.

33. A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein displaying the screen data on the display device further comprises:

displaying the video stream using an entire screen of the display device; and

displaying the user interface using the entire screen of the display device.

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34. In a system that is capable of displaying video content that is received from a video source or retrieved from a storage of a set top box, a computer program product for implementing a method for displaying a user interface with the video content without having to resize the video content, the method comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method, the method comprising:

generating screen data by mixing a user interface with the video content according to a level of transparency that is associated with the user interface and a level of transparency that is associated with the video content;

displaying the screen data in a window of a display device, wherein a view of the video content is dependent on the level of transparency of the user interface and on the level of transparency of the video content; and

adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface and the level of transparency of the video content according to input received from an input device that is operated by a user, wherein the view of the video content changes as the level of transparency of the user interface and the level of transparency of the video content are adjusted.

35. A computer program product as defined in claim 34, wherein the user interface includes one or more items, the method further comprising:

selecting an item that is included in the user interface; and

adjusting a level of transparency for the selected item without adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface.

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36. A computer program product as defined in claim 35, wherein adjusting a level of transparency for the selected item further comprises adjusting the level of transparency for the item such that the item is either more transparent or less transparent.

37. A computer program product as defined in claim 35, wherein the selected item is an interactive item that is associated with the video.

38. A computer program product as defined in claim 34, wherein adjusting the level of transparency further comprises adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface such that the user interface is either more transparent or less transparent.

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39. A method for simultaneously displaying a first application and a second application in a single display window, the method comprising:

generating screen data by mixing a first data source with a second data source according to a level of transparency that is associated with the first data source and a level of transparency that is associated with the second data source, wherein the first data source represents screen data of the first application and the second data source is screen data of the second application;

displaying the screen data in a window of a display device, wherein a view of the first application is dependent on the level of transparency of the first application and on the level of transparency of the second application; and

adjusting the level of transparency of the first application and the level of transparency of the second application according to input received from an input device that is operated by a user, wherein the view of the first application changes as the level of transparency of the first application and the level of transparency of the second application are adjusted.

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